

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

09/817,833

Applicant(s):

Kazuhiko YUKAMA (Deceased) and Kazumi YUKAWA

(Legal Representative)

For:

AN AUTOFOCUS TECHNIQUE FOR A DIGITAL CAMERA

Confirmation No.:

7882

Customer No.:

24367

Docket No.:

15162/03380

Filed:

March 26, 2001

Group Art Unit:

2612

Examiner:

Luong Trung Nguyen

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DATE OF DEPOSIT: APRIL 13, 2006

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MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Signature

APRIL 13, 2006 Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following is a Preliminary Amendment, which is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2005, which provides for a response period ending January 19, 2006.

A Petition for Extension of Time, to extend the response period for the Office Action, for three additional months to April 19, 2006, is being filed concurrently.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.